



6649-A Old Dominion Drive • McLean, VA 22101

Tel. 703-356-0551, TTY 711 • Fax 703-821-4275

Email: dranesville@fairfaxCounty.gov

Web Address: www.fairfaxCounty.gov/dranesville/

Dranesville Dispatch

John W. Foust

Dranesville District Supervisor

December 2012 : Issue 22

Dear Dranesville Resident,

My staff and I join with you in mourning the tragic loss of innocent lives in the Newtown, Connecticut shootings. In this issue of the Dranesville Dispatch, you will find information from the County and other sources on the issues of school safety, grief and stress management, and mental health resources. Once again, a horrible loss of innocent lives demonstrates why we must improve our mental health services and strengthen our gun control laws.

Phase I of the Silver Line Metro, with four stations in Tysons and one at Wiehle Avenue in Reston, is scheduled to begin service in December 2013. Since the Tysons Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2010, I have been working to provide for commuter parking near the Metro stations in Tysons. Recently, the Board of Supervisors endorsed a Request for Interest to identify developers interested in constructing commuter lots in Tysons, and the response has been very encouraging.

The Express Lanes opened last month and will provide commuters some relief from beltway congestion. They will also provide an excellent opportunity to run express bus service along the beltway. By Spring, 2013, Fairfax Connector will provide express bus service between the Burke, Springfield and Lorton VRE stations and Tysons using the Express Lanes. The County is also considering new feeder and circulator bus routes and schedules to serve the Tysons area when the new Metro stations open.

The County Park Authority is paving a trail along the Dead Run Valley stream and continuing to revise the McLean Central Park Master Plan. Also in this issue are details on a new Tree Walk trail in Riverbend Park and an update on the efforts of the Salona Task Force.

After years of effort, a significant milestone was recently reached with the negotiated sale of Falls Church Water to Fairfax Water. The agreement between Fairfax County, the City of Falls Church and Fairfax Water was reached with the assistance of a federal mediator and will be voted on by Falls Church City voters on November 13, 2013. Details are found in this newsletter.

I am pleased to recognize several organizations and individuals whose outstanding efforts are making a difference in Dranesville. Nationally recognized for outstanding academic achievement, George C. Marshall High School celebrated its 50th Anniversary this year. Also, the Board of Supervisors recognized several organizations working on behalf of people living with disabilities in Fairfax County and elsewhere. The stories of these and other outstanding individuals and organizations are discussed in this issue.

My staff and I wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season and a happy and healthy new year. It is an honor to serve you. As always, I welcome your thoughts on how to best serve the Dranesville community. Please feel free to contact us with your suggestions and concerns.

Best Wishes,
John W. Foust
Dranesville District Supervisor

Table of Contents

Dranesville News

| | |
|---|----|
| County Responds to Newtown, Connecticut Shooting | 4 |
| Fiscal Year 2014 and 2015 Budget Planning Underway | 6 |
| Agreement Reached for Falls Church Water to be Acquired by Fairfax Water | 7 |
| Proposed Dulles Rail Bus Service Plan Available for Review and Comment | 7 |
| Phase I of McLean Utility Undergrounding Project Complete | 8 |
| Board Approves Tysons “Arbor Row” Plan | 9 |
| Board Endorses Tyson Interim Parking Roadmap | 9 |
| Board Establishes Bi-Partisan Election Process Improvement Commission | 10 |
| McLean Central Park Master Plan Revision | 11 |
| Construction Underway for Langley Forks Scenic Pull-Off | 11 |
| New Riverbend Tree Walk Shows Diversity of Species at Park | 12 |
| Salona Task Force Update | 12 |
| Sanitary Sewers Completed in Salona Village and Turkey Run | 12 |
| Park Authority to Upgrade Dead Run Stream Valley Dirt Path to Paved Trail | 13 |
| Dranesville “Aging in Community” Update | 13 |
| Express Lanes Open for Business | 14 |
| New Connector Express Lanes Service | 14 |

Photo Gallery

| | |
|--|----|
| Annual “Stop Hunger Now” Event | 15 |
| Fairfax Library Foundation Jubilee | 15 |
| McLean Winterfest | 16 |
| McLean Chamber of Commerce’s Annual Reindog Parade and Tree Lighting | 16 |
| McLean Orchestra's Salute to the Military | 16 |

Recognitions

| | |
|---|----|
| County Recognizes Talent, Skills and Barriers of People with Disabilities | 17 |
| Dranesville Resident, Jean Laub, Honored with Elly Doyle Park Award | 17 |
| Patrick Horan, ‘Sears Heroes at Home’ and ‘Rebuilding Together’ Recognized | 18 |
| Dolley Madison Library wins County Exceptional Design Award | 19 |
| George Marshall High School Day in Fairfax County | 19 |
| Four Dranesville Athletes Recognized with Champions of Character Awards | 20 |
| Carole Herrick, Inducted into National Women’s Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame | 20 |

Announcements

| | |
|---|----|
| McLean Citizens Association Town Hall With Virginia State Representatives | 21 |
| December Special Programs Available Through ‘Connections for Hope’ | 22 |
| First Forum on the Perils of the College Drinking Culture January 17 | 23 |
| Fairfax County Park Authority Seeking Public Input at Listening Forum | 24 |
| The Closet of Herndon: Helping Those in Need Since 1974 | 24 |

**Do you know someone
who would like to receive
the *Dranesville Dispatch*
or
Dranesville Happenings?**

Ask them to email their contact
information to
dranesville@fairfaxCounty.gov
or
visit us online at
[www.fairfaxCounty.gov/
dranesville](http://www.fairfaxCounty.gov/dranesville).

**Attention Homeowner
Associations:**

If you are interested in having Supervisor Foust attend your Homeowner Association or Civic Organization meeting, please contact the Supervisor's Executive Assistant, Dianne Peikin, at (703) 356-0551.

Please provide us with the latest contact information for your Association Officers so that we may keep you better informed of events in Dranesville that may impact you and your neighborhood.

Call (703) 356-0551 or email Julie Ide at Julie.Ide@fairfaxCounty.gov with your latest information.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Jane Edmondson | Chief of Staff, McLean and Great Falls Issues |
| Jennifer Boysko | Herndon Office, Schools, Human Services, Housing |
| Julie Ide | Transportation, Trails, Communications |
| Donna Keefe | VDOT Issues, Zoning Enforcement, Traffic Calming |
| Cheryl Patten | Environment, Parks, HOT Lanes, Stormwater |
| Dianne Peikin | Office Manager, Supervisor's Schedule, Public Safety |
| Ben Wiles | Land Use Issues, Tysons Corner Development |

**Who's Who at
Dranesville
District Offices**

Herndon Office

Our office in the Town of Herndon is dedicated to serving constituents in the western-most part of Dranesville. Staff Aide, **Jennifer Boysko**, is available specifically to assist Herndon area constituents.

Office Hours: M-W-Th-F: 9 am to 12 pm
Tuesday: 12 pm to 3 pm
Or by appointment

Email: Jennifer.Boysko@fairfaxCounty.gov

Phone: 703-471-5076

Fax: 703-437-3210

Address: Old Town Hall
730 Elden St.
Herndon, VA 20170

Fairfax County Responds to Newtown, Connecticut Shooting

There are a number of ways Fairfax County is taking action in the aftermath of the tragic shootings at Sandy Creek Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

Police Presence at Schools

During the week of December 17, the Fairfax County Police Department increased visibility strictly for precaution and reassurance. There are no known threats. If there is any type of emergency, call 9-1-1 immediately.

[More details about Fairfax County Public Schools' response to the shooting](#)

Helping Children

Our children may have many questions about what happened in Newtown. Here are some [suggestions to help your child manage distress in the aftermath of a shooting](#).

Mental Health Resources

Fairfax County has many resources available to all of our residents who need mental health services. Every year, thousands of people of all ages seek services, many before they are in crisis. This information is intended to help raise the level of awareness about mental health resources in our community.

Who Can I Contact?

- [Learn about more resources available in the community](#)
- [CrisisLink](#) -- (703) 527-4077
- The [Community Services Board \(CSB\)](#) Entry and Referral Services (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.) (703) 383-8500, TTY 711. This is the starting point for accessing mental health, intellectual disability or substance abuse services through the CSB. Staff can take calls in English and Spanish, and access other languages when needed.
- CSB Emergency Services (24 hours) -- (703) 573-5679, TTY (703) 207-7737.

Mental Health First Aid Classes

You are more likely to encounter someone experiencing a mental health crisis than someone having a heart attack.

Mental Health First Aid teaches you about common warning signs and risk factors for mental health problems and provides a five-step action plan and resources for helping someone in crisis. Whether you are a first responder, teacher, faith community leader, human resources professional, parent, employer, coworker, or caring community member, this two-day, 12-hour certification course has information everyone can use.

Sometimes, the best first aid is you. Take the course, save a life, strengthen your community.

[Register for classes scheduled from January through June](#)

CSB can also customize Mental Health First Aid courses for groups – contact [Jamie MacDonald](#) at

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

jamie.macdonald@fairfaxcounty.gov for more information. Learn more about the classes in [this quick video](#).

SACC Centers

The [School Aged Child Care program](#) coordinates with Fairfax County Public Schools regarding facilities and security and will continue to place paramount importance on the safety and well-being of children, families and staff. FCPS has uniformed security staff patrolling all elementary schools during regular school hours and all FCPS facilities after hours.

Chaplain Corps

We've seen Newtown's chaplains working together to provide comfort. Here in Fairfax County just a few weeks ago, our Chaplain Corps held a training to better respond to mass shootings. Learn more about the work of the County's Chaplain Corps in [this video](#).

Resources for Dealing with Stress Related to the December 14 Tragedy at Sandy Hook

The Safe Community Coalition and Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce share the sorrow felt by everyone as they watched the pain and suffering experienced in Newtown, Connecticut in recent days.

These kinds of events affect the mental well being of everyone--even those not directly involved. Children and teens absorb much more than most people realize and transfer their emotions into fears and insecurities that they may not understand and at times cannot share or articulate. [The National Association of School Psychologists](#) has many resources in multiple languages for parents, caregivers and educators in times like these of grief and stress. Please visit them at www.nasponline.org.

In addition, the Disaster Distress Helpline, 1-800-985-5990, can provide immediate counseling to anyone who needs help in dealing with the many issues and problems that might arise from this tragedy. Sponsored by the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (SAMHSA), the Helpline immediately connects callers to trained and caring professionals from the closest crisis counseling center in the nationwide network of centers. The Disaster Distress Helpline is a confidential 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week multilingual national hotline dedicated to providing crisis counseling available to anyone experiencing psychological distress.



Fiscal Year 2014 and 2015 Budget Planning Underway

One of the most daunting tasks facing the Board of Supervisors each year is the preparation of the County budget. Preparation of the fiscal year (FY) 2014 budget is now underway. We continue to be in the midst of a multi-year, cyclical economic downturn. Our ongoing challenge is to develop a budget with an appropriate level of services that are affordable, sustainable and acceptable to the community.

As vice chairman of the Board's Budget Committee, Supervisor Foust's emphasis continues to be on reducing costs, improving efficiencies and adequately funding essential services such as schools, human services and public safety, while holding the line on property taxes. And as Chairman of the Board's Audit Committee, he is working with the County Auditor to improve the cost effective operation of the County.

On November 27, Fairfax County Executive Edward Long and Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Superintendent Jack Dale presented preliminary forecasts for FY 2014 and FY 2015 to the Board of Supervisors and the School Board. The fiscal forecast projects significant budget short-falls for both fiscal years.

Mr. Long is scheduled to present a combined FY 2014 and FY 2015 budget plan as a tool to provide awareness of the multi-year impact of potential budget reductions, in addition to the FY 2014 Advertised Budget at the February 26 Board of Supervisors' meeting. Superintendent Dale is scheduled to release his proposed budget on January 10.

As he has done for the past four years, Supervisor Foust has convened his citizen budget task force, chaired this year by John Ulfelder. The members have begun meeting and hearing presentations by various County and FCPS officials. The Task Force report will be presented to Supervisor Foust early in 2013. He will share it with his colleagues on the Board as they develop the final budget.

The County is encouraging all residents to provide input for the FY 2014 and FY 2015 budget plan. Comments will be accepted through mid-December and provided to the County Executive. Comments can be submitted on line as www.fairfaxCounty.gov/dmb/FY2014/survey. There will be numerous opportunities for public input on the FY 2014 budget after the County Executive releases the Advertised Budget. In addition, the Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings on the budget on April 9, 10 and 11.

Additional information about the FCPS budget process is available at www.fcps.edu.

Both the County and FCPS budget years begin on July 1, 2013.

Agreement Reached for Falls Church Water to be Acquired by Fairfax Water *Fall Church City Voting on Referendum in 2013*

On November 20, the City of Falls Church, Fairfax Water and Fairfax County announced an agreement for the sale of the Falls Church Water Utility to Fairfax Water.

The terms of the sale were negotiated with the assistance of a federal mediator and include the purchase of the Falls Church Water Utility for \$40 million, reduction of water rates to Falls Church Water customers and adjustments to the Falls Church City/Fairfax County boundary. The agreement is subject to approval by the voters of the City of Falls Church by referendum in November 2013.

As part of the agreement, the City's boundary with Fairfax County would be adjusted to include within the City's limits, three parcels totaling approximately 42 acres:

- A parcel with George Mason High School, Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School and adjoining athletic facilities and a connecting parcel at Route 7 and Haycock. 70% of the school parcels must be used for education-related purposes for 50 years. (Map of school land: http://www.fallschurchva.gov/content/government/departments/publicutilities/future/2012docs/map_schoolland_2012nov26.jpg.)
- Several city-owned parcels near the intersection of Shreve Road and Gordons Road. (Map of Shreve Road and Gordon Road area: http://www.fallschurchva.gov/content/government/departments/publicutilities/future/2012docs/map_gordonrdland_2012nov26.jpg.)

Also as part of the agreement, within two years, the rates of Falls Church water system customers must be reduced to the same rates paid by Fairfax Water's existing customers. This purchase will not impact the water rates of current Fairfax Water customers.

A full statement on the agreement can be found at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/current/Final%20Press%20Statement%2011%2020%2012%20210PM.pdf>.

Proposed Dulles Rail Bus Service Plan Available for Review and Comment

Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FDOT) has developed the **Phase 1 Dulles Rail Bus Service Plan**, based on the recommendations of the County's 2009 Transit Development Plan. The Service Plan proposes circulator routes (internal to the Tysons-central area) and feeder routes needed to access Silver Line Metro stations slated to open next winter. Also recommended are the realignment and/or replacement of some existing routes.

Please note that all services described in the plan are only proposals. The County welcomes your comments through the [project website](#). In addition, FDOT is planning a robust public outreach effort including several public meetings beginning in January 2013, to collect community feedback on the plan.

To review proposed route and/or schedule changes and make comments, please visit the project website at <http://www.fairfaxCounty.gov/connector/routes/dullesrail/>.

For additional information, please contact Julie Ide in the office of Supervisor John Foust at (703) 356-0551 or email Julie.Ide@FairfaxCounty.gov.

Phase I of McLean Utility Undergrounding Project Complete; Phase II Underway

Last June, Supervisor John Foust, representatives from the McLean Revitalization Corporation (MRC), County and VDOT, and various property owners broke ground to mark the start of the project to underground utilities, a project decades in the making.

The undergrounding of overhead power and other utility lines will occur along one side of Old Dominion from the Shell service station to Center Street (beyond the PNC Bank), and along both sides of Chain Bridge Road from approximately Laughlin Street (Capital One/Starbucks) to approximately Curran Street (Boston Market/McLean Cleaners). The undergrounding project will tie in with the existing undergrounding along Lowell and Emerson Avenues that was completed as part of the Palladium project.

Work to construct the ductwork (Phase I) began in July with minimal disruption to businesses and residents. As of the end of November, Phase I was virtually completed. Phase II, which is the pulling of the wires by Dominion Virginia Power, Cox Cable and Verizon has begun. It is estimated that Phase II will take 6-9 months.

In addition, the traffic signals that presently hang from wires from various poles will be replaced by the more attractive mast arm poles now preferred by VDOT. While the intersection was not on VDOT's schedule for signal replacement, at the urging of Supervisor Foust, VDOT found the funding necessary for construction of the mast arms.

After completion of the utility work, brick and concrete sidewalks will be installed throughout the project area. A Federal Transportation Enhancement Grant (TEG) awarded to the MRC will fund the sidewalk work. Pedestrian improvements at the Old Dominion/Chain Bridge intersection will follow, also with funding from the TEG.

“In a very short period of time, one of the busiest intersections in McLean will look significantly more attractive and will be safer for pedestrians and bicyclists,” said Supervisor John Foust. “I am extremely pleased that Phase I caused minimal disruptions, and I want to express my gratitude to the various property owners who granted easements at no cost to the project and whose businesses accommodated construction at their entrances.”

For more information contact Jane Edmondson in the office of Supervisor Foust at (703) 356-0551 or email Jane.Edmondson@FairfaxCounty.gov.



Underground ductwork construction.

Board Approves Tysons “Arbor Row” Plan

On November 20, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to approve Cityline Partners’ mixed-use redevelopment proposal called “Arbor Row”. The unanimous vote followed a positive recommendation from the Planning Commission and County staff.

The project, along West Park Drive in Tysons, near Tysons Galleria, includes the redevelopment of approximately 20 acres of mostly aging office buildings. The redevelopment totals 2.6 million square feet of mixed use development within a third to a half-mile from the Tysons Corner Metro-rail Station. Cityline will construct three high-rise residential buildings with approximately 1,179 units, four office towers, a 250-room hotel, and 58,000 square feet of retail.



In addition to providing millions in cash and in-kind contributions for constructing the Tysons street grid and other transportation improvements around Tysons Corner, Cityline will dedicate an eight-acre parcel of land to the County and construct two new synthetic turf athletic fields with lights and parking. Ultimately, one of the field spaces could be designated for a new school building to meet the student population demand in Tysons. The application also includes \$500,000 of stream restoration improvements along with a new stream valley trail within an urban linear park.

The Cityline project was approved under the revised Tysons Comprehensive Plan, approved in 2010. The plan calls for transforming Tysons from an auto dependent suburban office park to a vibrant mixed use center focused on transit. The Plan calls for Tysons to be transformed into a walkable, sustainable, urban center that will be home to up to 100,000 residents and 200,000 jobs by the year 2050.

Board Endorses Tysons Interim Parking Roadmap

The establishment of interim parking for Tysons moved a step forward on November 14 with the Board of Supervisors’ endorsement of the Metrorail Interim Parking Request for Interest (RFI). The RFI advances a follow-on motion to the Tysons Comprehensive Plan, presented by Supervisor Foust, and adopted by the Board that calls on County planners to identify commuter parking opportunities for the next 10-15 years in Tysons. The RFI outlines a streamlined program that allows interested developers to construct privately-run commuter lots in Tysons.

“This is a win-win,” said Supervisor Foust. “It will maximize Metro ridership and improve access to the Metrorail stations for residents of nearby communities.”

Several property owners have already expressed interest in the program and according to staff, one land owner expects to have a parking lot operational by the time Metro doors open.

Board Establishes Bi-Partisan Election Process Improvement Commission



At its November 20 meeting, the Board of Supervisors voted to establish the Bi-Partisan Election Process Improvement Commission. The Commission is tasked with reviewing operations during the 2012 general election and with identifying improvements and efficiencies to ensure access and convenience for voters in future elections.

Former Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Kate Hanley, and former Dranesville Supervisor and former Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Chairman Stu Mendelsohn, will serve as co-chairs.

Voter turnout for the 2012 election was 80.5%, exceeding the 78.7 % in 2008; 12,667 more people voted in Fairfax County on Election Day 2012 than did four years ago.

Cited in the discussion of the need for the commission was the long waits incurred by some voters. Exercising one's right to vote is a good thing to do; waiting in line several hours to do so is not. The last vote in the County was recorded at 10:30 p.m., some three and a half hours after the polls closed.

The commission will study a wide range of issues, including but not limited to:

- Considering optimal locations for precincts, the adequacy of parking at each precinct, and whether sufficient space is available for stacking lines and carrying out operations effectively.
- Analyzing the size of precincts to determine if some precincts should be divided.
- Analyzing a variety of issues associated with equipment, including number of voting machines, types of voting equipment, electronic poll books and back-up machines as well as reviewing accepted industry standards for how many machines per voter should exist at precincts.
- Examining practices for ensuring a sufficient number of election workers on voting days as well as how the Registrar identifies and trains election workers. Consideration should be given to the barriers to becoming an election worker, appropriate training, instruction materials and reporting forms.
- Evaluating the process by which election officials are approved and dispatched to polls.
- Reviewing the County's Absentee Voting policy, including a review of both the by-mail and in-person voting process.

Membership on the Commission will consist of:

- The chair, or his/her designee, of the Republican and Democratic Party of Fairfax County.
- One appointee from each District Supervisor and two appointees from the Chairman's office.
- A representative from Fairfax County Public Schools administration.
- Organizations such as: the Federation of Citizens' Associations, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, the League of Women Voters, the Fairfax Bar Association.
- Representatives from the major minority populations in the County.

The Commission is expected to begin work in January 2013 with its recommendations given to the Board of Supervisors in May 2013.

While elections in Virginia are the responsibility of state and local electoral boards, and the General Registrar is appointed by the Fairfax County Electoral Board, the County Board of Supervisors does help to provide the funding required for elections. Additionally, employees in the Office of elections are Fairfax County employees.

McLean Central Park Master Plan Revision

On November 27, the Fairfax County Park Authority hosted a public meeting to solicit community input into the planning process for McLean Central Park. The park is located at the intersection of Old Dominion Dr. and Dolley Madison Blvd. and is a well-established landmark in the heart of McLean. Residents can stroll among the trees and open lawns or seek more active recreation, available with the tennis and basketball courts, the disc golf course and two playgrounds for the younger set. A trail network connects the park with adjacent neighborhoods, the Dolley Madison Library and the McLean Community Center.

The Park Authority explained at the meeting that the Master Plan process is a regular part of its review of County parks to determine that parks are adequately meeting the needs of the community. The process provides an opportunity for public dialogue to identify community issues and concerns and for residents to offer suggestion for future features and activities. Because of the proximity of other civic resources, the Park Authority will coordinate closely with representatives from the McLean Community Center and the Dolley Madison Library.

Citizens are invited to share their thoughts with the Park Authority. Comments can be mailed to Gayle Hooper, Project Manager, Planning & Development Division, Fairfax County Park Authority, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 421, Fairfax, VA 22035. Email comments should be sent to parkmail@fairfaxCounty.gov. For additional information please contact Cheryl Patten in the office of Supervisor Foust at 703-356-0551 or email cheryl.patten@fairfaxCounty.gov.

Construction Underway for Langley Forks Scenic Pull-Off and Additional Parking

After a number of starts and stops, construction has begun of a scenic pull-off and additional parking spaces to serve Clemyjontri Park in McLean.

The plan to have a scenic pull off on Georgetown Pike has been in the works for over 10 years. Members of the Georgetown Pike Association and the Great Falls Citizens Association conceived of the idea in order to highlight the historic significance of the Pike.

The original project scope consisted of an historic marker and a small pull-off for 5-8 parking spaces. Because of the enormous popularity of Clemyjontri Park, which opened in 2006, Supervisor Foust and the Park Authority requested that the parking area be enlarged to 20 spaces. VDOT, the manager of the project, agreed.

The Park Authority agreed to clear and grub the site, completing that work earlier this year. A federal Transportation Enhancement Grant (administered by VDOT) and County money make up the remainder of the project funding.

VDOT bid the construction job four times. In two cases, the bids were significantly higher than the funding available. In another case, the awarded contractor went bankrupt. In October, VDOT received a bid from a company that could do the work with available funds. Construction began in the first week of December. If the weather cooperates, construction of the spaces along with striping and paving will be completed before the end of the year.

Supervisor Foust is concerned that crossing Georgetown Pike from the parking lot to Clemyjontri can be dangerous. "I'm very pleased that VDOT engineering is considering the addition of pedestrian safety improvements to the pull-off project," said Supervisor Foust.

For more information, please contact Jane Edmondson in the office of Supervisor Foust at (703) 356-0551 or email Jane.Edmondson@FairfaxCounty.gov.

New Riverbend Tree Walk Shows Diversity of Species at Park

Visitors to Riverbend Park have a new way to explore the 400-plus acres of land along the Potomac River. Local resident Tabitha Eagle, with the help of Bob Vickers of the Fairfax County Tree Commission and staff at Riverbend, helped mark a mile-long trail that identifies 20 different tree varieties within the park.

The circular trail starts at the Visitors Center, then goes north along the Potomac Heritage Trail, then moves west along the Follow the Hollows trail almost to the Nature Center before looping back to the Visitors Center. It features species of box elder, silver maple, spice bush, basswood, pignut hickory and more. Some of the largest examples in the state are within 10 feet of each trail and clearly marked.

"It's a relatively short walk, and though part of it goes uphill before coming back to the Visitors Center, I think it's a walk a lot of people can make," Vickers said. "What's also nice is the first third of the walk is right along the river and features the majority of the trees, so that makes for a shorter, easier walk that still offers plenty."

Maps of the Tree Walk can be found at the Riverbend Park Visitors Center at 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls.

(This article is based on an article published in the Fairfax Connection News, October 24, 2012 by Alex McVeigh, by permission of Connection Newspapers.)



Supervisor John Foust (right) and his wife, Dr. Marilyn Jerome, listen to remarks by Bob Vickers of Fairfax County Tree Commission

Salona Task Force Update

The Salona task force conducted a public meeting on October 4, 2012 to present a variety of land use concepts which it has considered for the parkland and to solicit community feedback on the presentations. The task force has been meeting for over one year during which time it has hosted land use presentations from a wide spectrum of stakeholder and interest groups. The exhibitions at the public meeting reflected the diversity of land use options that are being considered by the task force. The public meeting was an interactive ac-

tivity whereby the community was invited to speak with task force members about the various land use proposals and to leave detailed comments about the ideas presented.

The task force will finish its work shortly and will present a report with recommendations for Salona Park to the Fairfax County Park Authority.

For additional information please contact Cheryl Patten in the office of Supervisor Foust at (703)356-0551 or email cheryl.patten@fairfaxCounty.gov

Sanitary Sewers Completed in Salona Village and Turkey Run

The Salona Village and Turkey Run sanitary sewer extension and improvement projects were recently completed on time and within budget. Both projects are in neighborhoods where an existing sanitary sewer line

could be extended to service properties formerly reliant on septic systems. A total of 51 additional properties are now served by gravity or grinder sewer systems.

For additional information please contact Cheryl Patten in the office of Supervisor Foust at (703) 356-0551 or email cheryl.patten@fairfaxCounty.gov.

Park Authority to Upgrade Dead Run Stream Valley Dirt Path to Paved Trail

An existing dirt path will soon become paved trail. The Fairfax County Park Authority will begin construction of 1,150 linear feet of asphalt, multi-use trail in the Dead Run Stream Valley Park. The trail, an existing dirt path, connects Churchill Road to Ingleside Avenue.

Construction crews will begin work this month and, depending on the weather, finish construction by early spring. As a safety precaution, portions of the existing dirt path trail will be intermittently closed to users during the project. This project is funded through a Park bond.

For more information please contact Project Manager Bill Boston at (703) 324-2710 or Cheryl Patten in the office of Supervisor Foust at (703)356-0551 or email Cheryl.Patten@FairfaxCounty.gov.

Dranesville “Aging in Community” Update

“Aging in Community” is a national movement whereby communities are exploring ways for seniors to stay in their own homes, or “age in community” and more fully enjoy their senior years. Supervisor Foust and his staff continue to work with community groups in Great Falls, Herndon and McLean to explore concepts and ideas to better understand and meet the needs of seniors in the Dranesville district and facilitate “aging in place”. Here is an update on the ongoing Aging in Community efforts in Dranesville:

Great Falls:

The Great Falls Senior Center without Walls continues to provide social interaction for Great Falls seniors. Most recently, the Center wound up its final program year with a seasonal celebration pot-luck. The theme for this December 4 event was “Celebrating and Sharing This Wonderful Season”. The Great Falls Center without Walls events have been very popular in the community, often drawing a crowd of 80 or more participants. The Great Falls Center Without Walls has become a member of “Friends of Fairfax County Seniors Centers”.

Herndon

The Herndon Senior Center continues to provide robust and interesting programming for Seniors in the community. On November 15, the Senior Center held a Thanksgiving Celebration.
(see photo).



McLean

The Aging in McLean committee has been working to create a new volunteer resource desk at the McLean Community Center, to be called the Senior Source. It will be staffed by County-trained volunteers and will provide McLean residents with information about services available to seniors and adults living with disabilities, specifically in the McLean area. Volunteers will also take feedback from residents as well. Volunteers are being recruited to staff the Senior Source Desk. This pilot program has been initiated by Supervisor Foust’s office in coordination with a group of local community organizations and residents, including the McLean Chamber of Commerce, The McLean Community Center and George Mason University.

The next meeting of the McLean Senior Source Committee will be held on Friday, January 4, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Library at the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Amy Trang, from the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, will be in attendance .

For information on training and volunteering at the MCC for the Aging in McLean Committee, or for general information about Aging in Community, please contact Jennifer Boysko at the Herndon office of Supervisor Foust at (703) 471-5076 or email Jennifer.Boysko@FairfaxCounty.gov.

Express Lanes Open for Business

The Express Lanes are open and motorists are becoming accustomed to the new ramps, traffic patterns and signage. VDOT and the State Police are working together to alert drivers and help them make a safe changeover to the new Beltway lanes.

Drivers should be aware that an E-ZPass transponder is needed for each vehicle that uses the Express Lanes. Payment for cars using the lanes is automatically deducted from the reserve amount on the E-ZPass. Driving on the Express Lanes without an E-ZPass will result in a fine being assessed against the owner of the vehicle. Drivers who mistakenly enter the Express Lanes without an E-ZPass can go online to the Express Lanes web site and pay the travel fee along with a nominal administrative cost.

To view new routes and signage, obtain an E-ZPass or ask questions, please visit [495_expresslanes.com/customer-care](http://495.expresslanes.com/customer-care) or call (855)-495-9777.

For additional information please contact Cheryl Patten in the office of Supervisor Foust at (703) 356-0551 or email cheryl.patten@fairfaxCounty.gov.



New Connector Express Lanes Service To Connect Burke, Springfield and Lorton VRE to Tysons

Beginning in January 2013, Fairfax Connector will operate a fast, convenient express bus service to [Tysons Corner from Burke](#). Additional routes starting in Spring 2013 will provide express service from [Springfield/Saratoga to Tysons Corner](#) and from [Lorton VRE to Tysons Corner](#). The new bus service will use the 495 Express Lanes. Buses will travel an average of 55 mph on the Beltway, even during rush hour.

Routes will be limited-stop and direct express bus service. The proposed one-way fare for the service is \$3.65. Commuters can use their SmarTrip® card or cash.

For more information visit the Commuter Information website at <http://www.fairfaxCounty.gov/connector/routes/expresslanes/commuter.htm>.



Dranesville Photo Gallery

Annual “Stop Hunger Now” Event Assembles 250,000 Meals for Haiti

Nearly 1,000 volunteers met at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer on November 10 to package more than 250,000 meals to help feed children in Haiti.

(Photos by Lori Baker, Reprinted by permission of Connection Newspapers November 13, 2012, “Stop Hunger Now in McLean” by Lori Baker.)



Third graders from McLean Brownie Troop 6911 include Emma Radcliffe (Kent Gardens), Peyton Richards (Chesterbrook), Ava Macomber (Kent Gardens), Tieran Holmex (Kent Gardens), Josie Conyers (Haycock), Sofia Najjar (Kent Gardens), and Leah Siegel (Kent Gardens).



Marshall High School ninth graders, Priscilla Mariam and Rebecca Henok. “We’re here to make a difference in the community. Not just the community, but the whole world,” said Henok.



Dranesville Supervisor John Foust helped assemble meals and distribute large bags of rice.

Fairfax Library Foundation Jubilee Welcomes Author David Baldacci

The Fairfax Library Foundation held its fourth annual *A Library Jubilee! Let Loose in the Library!* on Saturday, October 13 at Oakton Library. More than 175 business and community leaders, elected officials, library patrons, benefactors and Friends Groups from Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax attended this special celebration to raise funds to enhance programs and services of the Fairfax County Public Library System.

In attendance at the celebration, were best-selling author, David Baldacci, and his wife, Michelle, who created the [Wish You Well Foundation](#) to combat illiteracy in America. To date, the Wish You Well Foundation has awarded funds in over 40 states.



Supervisor John Foust (center) with founders of the Wish You Well Foundation, best-selling author, David Baldacci and his wife, Michelle.

McLean Winterfest a Big Success

McLean's only community parade was held Sunday, December 2, following a route from Old Chain Bridge Road and Fleetwood Road to Elm Street. Parade floats were announced by Peggy Fox of WUSA/Channel 9.

As in previous years, WinterFest organizers presented a check to Share of McLean, helping families in need. This year, \$1,100 was donated.

This year's parade was the first to include food vendors. In addition, 495 Express Lanes personnel were available to provide information and answer questions about the recently opened 495 Express Lanes and to distribute E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex, for use on the lanes.



Kate Walter, 9, with her dog, Rocco. (photo credit: Robbie Hammer and Connection Newspapers, December 4, 2012)

Pooches Turn Out in Force for Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce's Annual Reindog Parade and Tree Lighting

Decorated dogs and their owners march in the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce's Annual Reindog Parade and Tree Lighting on December 1.



McLean Orchestra's Salute to the Military Held November 11

McLean Orchestra held its third annual "Salute to the Military" on November 11 at Vinson Hall.



Front Row (left to right) Wayne W. Sharp, Immediate President; Barbara Comstock, Virginia Delegate; William Glenn Yarborough, Jr., Commander, American Legion Post 270; John W. Foust, Drainsville District Supervisor. Back Row (left to right) McLean Orchestra's Brass Quintet with Andrew Wilson, Trumpet; Kevin Illick, French Horn; Robert Mesite, Trombone; Jack Tilbury, Tuba; and David Haglund, Trumpet. Photo courtesy of John Huling, Executive Director, McLean Orchestra)

Recognitions

County Recognizes Talent, Skills and Barriers of People with Disabilities

Throughout October 2012, Fairfax County officially recognized that people with disabilities are an important part of the County's strong, diverse workforce. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors proclaimed October as Disability Employment Awareness Month at its September 25 meeting.

The County also hosted the Martha Glennan Employer of the Year Awards on October 15 and Disability Mentoring Day on October 17. Finally, on October 26, County employees attended a special event focusing on disability workforce inclusion and awareness organized by Kathleen Martinez, assistant secretary for disability employment policy at the U.S. Department of Labor.

If you are interested in improving employment opportunities for people with disabilities, consider joining the Fairfax Area Disability Services Board Employment Committee. Contact Jill Clark at jill.clark@fairfaxCounty.gov or 703-324-5874, 703-449-1186 TTY.



Kelly Greenwood, chairman, Fairfax Area Disability Services Board, (center) accepts the proclamation from the board.

Dranesville Resident, Jean Laub, Honored with 2012 Elly Doyle Park Service Award

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board awarded the recipients of the 2012 Elly Doyle Park Service Awards on November 15. Jean Laub, a resident of McLean, received an award for more than two decades of volunteer service at Hidden Oaks Nature Center. A retired teacher, Ms. Laub teaches youngsters about the beauty and complexity of the natural world as well as the importance of stewardship. She has provided over 5,000 hours of service, leading preschool programs, manning the front desk, leading trail walks and assisting wherever the need exists.

The annual Elly Doyle award recognizes individuals and organizations who contribute outstanding volunteer service to the Fairfax County Park Authority. The Elly Doyle Park Service Award was established by the Fairfax County Park Authority in 1988 in recognition of former board member Ellamae Doyle's years of outstanding service.



Captain Patrick Horan, 'Sears Heroes at Home' and 'Rebuilding Together' Recognized at December 4 Board Meeting

This past summer, Captain Patrick Horan and his wife moved into a home that was retrofitted to meet his physical needs resulting from a severe injury sustained while on duty in Iraq.

Captain Horan was born and raised in Springfield, Virginia and graduated from Radford University in 1997. Later that year, he enlisted in the Infantry and graduated first in his class from Officer Candidate School. He deployed to Iraq in the summer of 2006. In the summer of 2007, Captain Horan was shot and gravely injured.

Captain Horan was completely debilitated. But he has defied the odds, and after five years of intensive physical and occupational therapy, he has made a remarkable recovery and is able to walk and talk. Unfortunately, he still suffers many residual effects from the injury.

With much of his rehabilitation occurring at Walter Reed, he and his wife Patty looked for a home in Montgomery County. But after being outbid for a house, they returned to Northern Virginia and purchased a four-bedroom home in McLean.

Several changes needed to be made to the house in order to create a safe environment for Captain Horan. After seeing a story about Captain Horan on a national TV program, representatives from the Heroes at Home project, sponsored by Sears, and Rebuilding Together stepped in. The Sears program for wounded veterans has helped rebuild homes for more than 1,000 veterans since 2007. Rebuilding Together is the nation's leading nonprofit organization working to preserve affordable homeownership and revitalize neighborhoods. Nationally 10,000 houses a year are renovated. The Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church Rebuilding Together affiliate renovates about 40 houses in Fairfax County each year assisting low-income homeowners, particularly seniors, persons with disabilities, families with children and veterans. What was unique about this effort, is that the Montgomery affiliate of Rebuilding Together joined the team of volunteers.

The project team lined up local contractors to provide free or reduced-price services. The value of the improvements to the Horan house are valued at over \$100,000 and include an elevator, and a new handicapped accessible bathroom with telephone.

Captain Horan and his family along with Representatives of the Heroes at Home and Rebuilding Together programs, came before the Board on December 4 to be recognized for his service to his country and extraordinary fortitude in dealing with his injuries.



On December 4, the Board of Supervisors recognized Captain Patrick Horan and his family for his service to the country and also the Rebuilding Together and Sears Heroes at Home programs for their efforts to renovate homes for wounded warriors.

Dolley Madison Library wins 2012 Fairfax County Exceptional Design Award

Architects and developers of the Dolley Madison Library in McLean received the 2012 Fairfax County Exceptional Design Merit Award at an awards ceremony held on October 16. The library building was cited in the Institutional Category for having “maintained the character of the community on the street side while opening to nature and natural light in the rear of the structure; the green roof is a sustainable feature.” Bowie Gridley Architects and the Fairfax County Department of Public Works & Environmental Services were also recognized before the County Board of Supervisors on October 16.



Board of Supervisors recognized the Exceptional Design Awards winners at their October 16 meeting.

The Fairfax County Exceptional Design Awards Program selected nine award winners, judged for superior architecture, site design and landscaping, context with surroundings and application of energy and water conservation and other green building practices. The design awards program is sponsored by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and administered by the County's Department of Planning and Zoning in cooperation with the County Architectural Review Board and the Northern Virginia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

November 9, 2012, Proclaimed George Marshall High School Day by Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

George Marshall High School has had a big year, including major building renovations and celebrating its 50th anniversary on November 9. Also newsworthy was the 2012 US News and World Report's rankings of the best high schools in the Country. U.S. News evaluated nearly 22,000 public high schools in the country, based on state proficiency standards, how well they prepare students for college, and other factors. George Marshall was awarded a gold medal, ranking 55th in the nation, 3rd in Virginia and 2nd in Fairfax County, behind only Thomas Jefferson High School. The students and teachers have a lot to be proud of.

On November 9, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors proclaimed November 9, 2012 to be George C. Marshall High School Day in Fairfax County. School Officials and student leaders came before the Board on October 15 to receive a copy of the proclamation.

Marshall High School serves the Tysons area, including a portion of the Dranesville District, with students representing ninety-nine countries and fifty-four languages.



Principal Jay Pearson and other school officials and students were brought before the County Board of Supervisors on October 16 to receive a proclamation declaring November 9, 2012 as George C. Marshall High School Day in Fairfax County.

Four Dranesville Residents Recognized with Champions of Character Awards

The Fairfax County Athletic Council in partnership with the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, recognized four Dranesville district residents. All were recognized for extraordinary service in pursuing victory with honor at the tenth annual Fairfax County Champions of Character Awards held on October 23.

The goal of The Champions of Character awards program is to help restore the ennobling tradition of amateur athletic competition. Individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary service in the sports community, while modeling the basic traits of good character (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship), are recognized.

Four awards are given for each of the County's magisterial districts. This year's Dranesville award winners were:

- **Jack Hoeymans**, Male Athlete, Northern Virginia Bandits
- **Carina Sturm**, Female Athlete, Vienna Girls Softball League/Langley High School
- **Mary Cull**, Parent, McLean Youth Athletics
- **Jon Polk**, Coach, Premier Athletic Club



(left to right) FCPS School Board member Megan McLaughlin, Supervisor John Foust, County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, Harold Leff Chairman, Fairfax County Athletic Council, Jack Hoeymans, Mary Cull, Carina Sturm, Chris Leonard, Director, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, Jon Polk, Coach, Premier Athletic Club, Michael Champness, Dranesville Representative, Fairfax County Athletic Council

McLean Historian, Carole Herrick, Inducted into National Women's Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame

McLean historian and resident, Carole Loop Herrick, was inducted into the National Women's Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame this past November. Ms. Herrick was a nationally ranked top twenty U. S. player for several years. During her career she won the California High School Championship for Pacific High. Playing for Los Angeles State College, she won the California Collegiate Singles and, later, the California Doubles Championship with partner Billie Jean Moffitt (King). She was a finalist in the National Collegiate Championship and won the National Collegiate Championship with partner Connie Jaster. *(Photo and article courtesy of Connection Newspapers, November 19, 2012)*



Carole Herrick (center) with Mildrid West (left), curator of Hall of Fame Museum, and Betsy Nagelsen McCormack (right), a former top women's tennis player.)

Announcements

McLean Citizens Association Winter Meeting: Town Hall with Virginia State Representatives on Priorities for the 2013 Legislative Session

Wednesday, January 2, 7:30 p.m. to – 9:30 p.m.
McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave.
McLean

The public is invited to attend the McLean Citizens Association's Town Hall meeting which will feature the two Senators and four Delegates who represent the McLean area in the Virginia General Assembly:

- State Senator Barbara Favola (31st District)
- State Senator Janet Howell (32nd District)
- State Delegate Bob Brink (48th District)
- State Delegate Barbara Comstock (34th District)
- State Delegate Mark Keam (35th District)
- State Delegate Jim Scott (53rd District)

This is a great opportunity to tell state legislators what you would like them to accomplish in 2013 and to learn more about their goals and priorities. The Town Hall will include an extended question and answer period, during which legislators will respond to written questions that you submit before or after their opening remarks.

This is THE meeting in McLean to attend if you are:

- Worried about State legislation regarding and/or funding for roads, education, health and safety;
- Wondering if County residents get a fair return on the state taxes we pay;
- Have a legislative proposal to share; and/or
- Want to become more informed.

Please invite your neighbors and friends to attend this important meeting sponsored by the MCA. The meeting is free and open to the public.



December Special Programs Available Through 'Connections for Hope' in Herndon

Connections for Hope is a facility where multiple nonprofit organizations and other service providers operate under one roof to provide individuals and families in need with access to a wide and integrated array of services. Participating organizations work together to provide services that range from medical care to language training, tutoring children to legal counseling, homelessness prevention to mental health services. These and other services foster the self-sufficiency, good health, and education people of all ages and cultures need so that they can participate constructively in the life of their community

Connections for Hope has several special programs offered for the holiday season:

- **Resume and Job Interview Preparation** Workshop will be offered Tuesday, December 18 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm. Register with Carolina Chavez at (703) 956-6722
- **Monthly Immigration Legal Services Clinic.** Immigration attorneys are helping students to apply for the “Deferred Action”, in addition to other services. For more information or an appointment call (703) 979-1240
- **Sexual Assault Counseling** Counselor offers free confidential support for people of all ages who are currently or have previously experienced sexual assault. For more information please call Counselor, Gretchen Fair at (703) 704-6717
- **Foreclosure Prevention Workshop and First-Time Home Buyer Workshop** Learn the options available to save your house or avoid foreclosure. Learn about the process involved with buying your first home. Register with Martin Rios (703) 956-6722 Ext. 116
- **Haircuts** Professional hairstylists have volunteered to offer FREE HAIRCUTS for clients of Connections for Hope Partners and other community organizations. Register with Carolina Chavez 703-956-6722
- **Public Benefits Eligibility and Assistance** Eligibility information and help with online application. For more information call Carolina Chavez at (703) 956-6722.

Connections partners are:

- **Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board** - Linking persons with mental illness and substances abuse.
- **Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic** - Provides free health services to patients with no insurance.
- **NOVA ScriptsCentral** – Provides prescription medication for low-income patients of the clinic.
- **Just Neighbors** - Provides immigration legal services to low income immigrants and refugees.
- **Literacy Council of Northern Virginia** - Offers English classes for adults.
- **Reston Interfaith** - Offers different services. Such as, The Homelessness Prevention and Housing Counseling
- **Vecinos Unidos Neighbors United** - Provides homework assistance during the school year, for students in grades 1 through 6.
- **Helping Children Worldwide** - Is the umbrella organization for Connections for Hope.

For more information about Connections for Hope please visit www.connectionsforhope.org or call (703) 956-6722.

First Forum on the Perils of the College Drinking Culture Scheduled for January 17 at McLean High School

College-bound students and their parents are encouraged to attend the first of four forums in 2013 that deal with binge drinking on college campuses.

An award-winning film will be shown on the dangers of alcohol and binge drinking. The film contains graphic imagery but is a must-see for all parents, their college-bound teens, and anyone who is concerned about the dangers of underage and high-risk drinking. For more information about the film, visit www.gordie.org.

A distinguished panel will be on hand to answer questions. Among those who will take part are: Raymond Morrogh, Commonwealth's Attorney for Fairfax County, and his deputy Casey Ligan; William Hauda, M.D., Inova Fairfax Hospital; Fairfax County Police Captain Bruce Ferguson, Commander, Youth Services Division; Mary Ann Sprouse, Director, George Mason University Office of Alcohol, Drug and Health Education; Jeff Levy, father of a student who died following drinking at a college party; Ryan Smith, a Virginia Tech graduate student; and local students.

Forum Details:

**Thursday, Jan. 17
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
McLean High School,
1633 Davidson Road
McLean**

(Hosted by the McLean High PTSA and Safe Community Coalition)

For more information call (703) 246-3271 or visit www.Unifiedpreventioncoalition.org.

Other Recent Events:

- The Safe Community Coalition co-sponsored an event, featuring Jordan Burnham, a nationally-recognized speaker with the Active Minds Speaker's Bureau. Jordan is a young adult who presents his story of depression and an attempted suicide during adolescence. He spoke to students at several high schools in Fairfax County throughout the week of December 10. December 11, Jordan shared his story with parents at the Old Firehouse in McLean (1440 Chain Bridge Rd). For more information about the speaker bureau visit <http://www.activeminds.org/our-programming/speakers-bureau>.
- On Tuesday, November 13, the Herndon High School PTSA hosted a forum on the benefits of proper sleep titled *Sleep and our Teens*. Daniel S. Lewin, Ph.D., DABSM led this important event to discuss the physical and psychological effects teens experience when they do not get enough sleep and he provided some strategies on how to help them. Dr. Lewin is a licensed clinical psychologist and Board Certified in Sleep Medicine and Behavioral Sleep Medicine. He is the Associate Director of the Pediatric Sleep Medicine at Children's National Medical Center and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry at George Washington University School of Medicine.

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, and Mental Wellness events in Dranesville for teens and their families are sponsored by the Unified Prevention Coalition, Safe Community Coalition and Greater Herndon Community Coalition.

Fairfax County Park Authority Seeking Public Input at Listening Forum

Park Authority Director John Dargle Jr. hosts bi-monthly Listening Forums in the community to answer questions and hear the opinions of residents on Park-related matters.

Upcoming Listening Forum details:
Thursday, January 17 at 7 p.m.
Herrity Building
Board Room 941
12055 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax



Residents are also invited to speak at the start of regular Park Authority Board meetings. The Board hears testimony from residents on any park topic except issues related to litigation or personnel matters. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at the location listed above. To find out when the Board is meeting and specifics of the public forum, visit www.fairfaxCounty.gov/parks/boardagn2.htm. Walk in speaking slots are available on a first come, first served basis. Register by calling the Public Information Office at (703) 324-8662, or sign up in person at the Herrity Building, Suite 927, by noon on the day of the meeting.

The Closet of Herndon: Helping Those in Need Since 1974

The Closet is a nonprofit thrift shop located in the heart of historic downtown Herndon.

The Closet was founded in 1974 by a handful of churches to assist low-income families by selling used clothing at a nominal price. Over the years, the mission of The Closet has expanded to distribute clothing to truly needy individuals and use profits to support worthwhile community programs. Items not sold are donated to needy communities in the western part of the state.

Last year, The Closet gave away more than \$80,000 worth of clothing and necessities to persons referred by an authorized social service agency or one of the member congregations. The group has donated more than \$2 million to community groups and programs over the years.

Store Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Donation Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Closet of Herndon:

845 Station Street
Herndon, VA 20170

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 42
Herndon, VA 20172

For more information email TheClosetInc@verizon.net or call (703) 437-7652.



Santa and Supervisor John Foust at December 9 Caroling event held at The Closet, collecting canned and boxed food to support Grace Ministries.



A Fairfax County, Va.,
publication

**Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability
in all county programs, services and activities.
Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request.**

For information, call the Dranesville District office at 703-356-0551, TTY 711.